

mangrove swamp. It was discovered by the sense of feeling as we were digging in the mud among the eel grass roots for *Caulerpa*. We were continually feeling through the thick soles of our heavy rubber boots, a sensation as of stepping on drowned kittens. With fear and trembling we put our hands down to investigate, and pulled up the curious fleshy weed somewhat resembling a downy, swollen *Udotea*. The plants harbored numerous worms and other small sea animals.

At Port Antonio was our happy hunting ground in 1894, a coral reef running out from the base of a steep bluff. The water was extremely shallow out some distance. Perhaps we had half an acre of safe wading. We did not consider it safe to wade where we could not see the bottom, owing to sharks, octopi, etc. At this place we waded out to where the surface was jagged and rocky, the water about to our waists. At this depth we found *Caulerpa clavifera* growing like lovely little clusters of green grapes, in big soggy masses. Here also were clumps of all those limy things, *Halimedas*, *Amphiroas*, *Galaxauras*, *Cymopolias*, etc. They followed inshore, and with them upon the rocks were those green, warty, potato-ball-like *Dictyosphaerias*. Nearer the shore the water flattened out to nothing, and the bottom was sand, like powdered shells. Most of the plants mentioned dropped out, but *Caulerpa ericifolia* and *C. plumaris* covered the bottom, as club mosses grow in the woods. Such a pretty sight! Day after day we searched this reef for the "Mermaid's Shaving brush" you had told us we would most likely find, but were giving up in despair, and were leaving the water for the last time when just at the shore, the water barely deep enough to cover them, I noticed peculiar little raised mounds in the sand. With my foot I brushed them over and revealed the *Penicillus capitatus*, so long searched for. They grew as abundantly as seedling evergreens in a neglected Maine pasture lot, and we hastily brushed the sand aside and gathered as many as we could carry.

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WEBERA PROLIGERA IN AMESBURY, MASSACHUSETTS. — I have been much interested of late in the study of those mosses which do not multiply themselves alone by the agency of spores, but by means of vegetative growths serving the same purpose. It is astonishing how abundant these plants will become in regions where it is almost impossible to find the least sign of fruit. There is a small brook in this town about a mile in length, flowing through sandy land

and emptying into the Merrimac river. For some distance from the head of this stream the banks are covered with various mosses, but I have never found any of the *Webera* group, the brook is then joined by another little rivulet which has cut for itself a channel in the live sand some thirty feet in depth. These banks of wet sand are densely covered with *Webera prolifera* (Lind.) Kind. From this place on, both banks of the brook are covered with this moss, although hardly any fruit can be found anywhere. It is easy to see how this wonderful multiplication is brought about, for in the autumn one can find plenty of the peculiar bulbils, which grow on the stem of this moss near its apex, but in the spring these growths are mostly gone. In the winter season the banks are covered with ice and snow, which collect the bodies, carry them along the stream and deposit them in the mud farther down, thus producing plants all along. — J. W. HUNTINGTON, Amesbury, Massachusetts.

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TWO WOOL-WASTE PLANTS AT LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS. — In connection with the article in the February number of the RHODORA by Mr. Emile F. Williams noting the finding of two species of *Erodium* in Tewksbury, the following may be of interest.

On June 14, 1900, I found growing within two feet of a pile of wool dust at the Arlington Mills, Lawrence, a single plant of *Clarkia pulchella*, Pursh, bearing one finely-developed flower. A careful hunt failed to reveal any more plants of this species.

This plant, if I mistake not, is a native of Oregon and California, and its presence here is easily accounted for, since the mill uses large quantities of so-called Territory wool from Oregon, Montana, Idaho, etc.

On June 15th I found in the same place a profusely flowering plant of *Gilia androsacea*, Steud., the lilac corolla with dark eye causing it to be easily identified. This, also, is a western plant, as are all of the genus.

There were also several species of *Compositae* not native, but I have not as yet identified them. The coming season I hope to make a study of this special locality. — JOHN A. COLLINS, Jr., Lawrence, Massachusetts.